Corruption in public services

1512. SHRI JAGMOHAN- Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has recently been made by Government or any of their agency to ascertain the extent of corruption presently prevailing in public services;

(b) whether public grievances have mounted on account of rising incidence of corruption; and

(c) what action at political, social educational and administrative level is being taken to check the menace of corruption and to remove/reduce public grievances on that score?

THE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) The endeavour of the Govt, to check malpractices in administration is a continuing process. The work of the Central Government in the field of combating corruption in public administration have been considerably stepped up. The main agencies involved in the task are:—

(i) The Administrative Vigilance Division of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and internal vigilance set ups in the Ministries/Departments and Public Sector Undertakings;

(ii) the Central Vigilance Commission; and

(iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation.

The responsibility for checking/combating corruption is of the Secretary in-charge of Ministries/Deptts. concerned. The 'Annual Action Plan' prepared by this Ministry which was launched in 1985-86. envisages a three pronged strategy for containment of corruption in public service. The broad features of the Action Plan cover-

Preventive vigilance. surveillance and detection; and deterrent punitive action.

Every year, the perfonmance of 23 select Ministries/Departments are monitored by this Department. Where there is high pendency they are requested to take effective steps so as to reduce the pendencies. To strengthen the vigilance set up in PSUs steps have been taken to fill up vacant posts, and impart training to the CVOs in vigilance work to make them more effective.

A comprehensive review of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1947 was undertaken in the year 1987-88. On the basis of this review, a new Act, namely, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was enacted to further strengthen the legal grounds to prevent and punish public servants involved in corruption.

Percentage of civil services officers seeking lucrative jobs

1513. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIR-LA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of IAS and other services officers for seeking lucrative jobs in IMF and UN has been on the rise;

(b) if so, the comprative percentage of rise in the number of IAS and other civil services officers, leaving for UN and IMF jobs during the last three years year-wise; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) Under the existing Government policy, officers are permitted to take up international and bilateral assisgnments. Under the guidelines. issued under this policy, powers for grant of cad:e clearance for foreigh assisgnments have been delegated